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NO. 3

THE CALIFORNIA ECLECTIC MEDICAL JOURNAL

Incorporating

THE LOS ANGELES JOURNAL OF ECLECTIC MEDICINE
AND THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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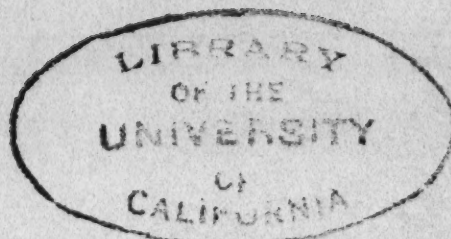
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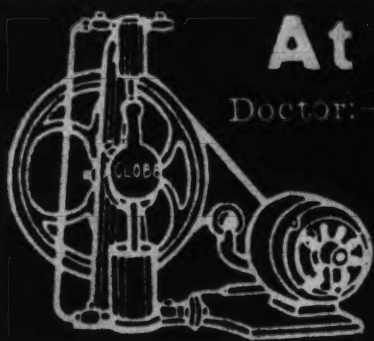
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The California Eclectic Medical Journal

Vol. VI.

MARCH, 1913

No. 3

Original Contributions

BURSERA MICROPHYLLA.

Richard E. Kunze, M.D., Phoenix, Arizona.

I called attention to this small bush or tree some few years ago in the Eclectic Medical Journal of Los Angeles, as an excellent remedy in irritation, accompanied by much pain and frequent irritation in some forms of inflammatory condition of the bladder. Quite recently I came across "Contributions from the United States National Herbarium," No. III, issued November 1, 1890, which gives information in regard to an injection for gonorrhoea and as a drink made from the gum of this tree, for the same disease. The article referred to is from investigation by Dr. Palmer, of Washington, D. C., who at the time collected plants for the United States National Herbarium in the vicinity of Guaymas, Western Mexico, which I think is worth copying.

"Burseraceae. *Bursera microphylla*, Gray. 'Torte' in Mexican. A low tree ten to fifteen feet high, a foot or more in diameter with a much branching top. The bark is used for dyeing and tanning and is largely shipped to England. An injection made from the bark is used for gonorrhoea, and a drink prepared from the gum is taken for the same disease."

Dr. Edward Palmer, now an octogenarian is still living in Washington, and in his many visits to Mexico paid considerable attention to cacti and very many other Mexican plants. The *bursera microphylla* here in the mountains of Phoenix, its most northern latitude, is a very small tree scarcely over six feet high, and at the base only a few inches in diameter. A few French ranchers and prospectors in Telegraph Canyon of the Salt River Mountains, have used its aromatic berries for flavoring soups. But a Mr. Lafe Brunson, who first took me to the locality, himself suffering for years from irritation of the neck of the bladder, and incidentally cured himself by chewing the twigs of this bark, after he had noticed me masticating it to ascertain its possible properties, has nearly exterminated this tree by repeated collecting of its branches, leaves, flowers and

berries, which he gives to anyone he meets similarly suffering. I have just learned that Dr. Tafel is experimenting with it and is having a tincture prepared from it. I very much doubt if a tincture would have the same effect as observed when this drug is masticated. A physician in Nevada requested me to send him some of this drug, which I did. He used a tincture and failed to cure a case of incontinence of urine in a child, and also gave it to an elderly man for irritation of the bladder, also with negative result.

It seems that by the addition of the alkaline saliva an entirely different effect is produced as by an alcoholic tincture. The old-fashioned way of using crude drugs as we did fifty years ago is frequently the most effective way of obtaining a drug action with satisfactory results. Did not the aborigines of this country first make known our most valuable remedies by the use of decoction if not in the crude state? Reason for a moment, brethren. Don't destroy the bridge which carried you safely across a chasm. Homeopathy and specific medication as now practiced is not always the surest way to success, and why? As the late Dr. Alexander Wilder used to say to me: "All diseases will get well without medication." If that be so, cannot we all take a lesson from it, and not wonder of the success the healers of Christian Science have?

I must mention another case of severe cystic irritation, which was cured by masticating the twigs of *bursera microphylla*. A Mr. George W. Barnard, now dead, who kept a roadhouse on the Tempe road between there and Phoenix, right on the desert where I collected in botany and entomology for years, and often camped with him for two or three days at a time, had, as it appears to me, contracted this irritation from the use of too much alcoholic drink. After using *bursera microphylla* he had no further trouble with this annoying complaint, which was the result of a recommendation by Mr. Lafe Brunson of Phoenix. Now here is where the audacity of the layman comes in. The average sufferer will clutch at a straw, and cares little whether cured by an M.D., or a mule driver.

Don't let us forget that when an M.D. fails in curing a patient, the latter would just as lief consult and take advice from a bootblack, clairvoyant, farrier, patent medicine dealer, pompous quack or Christian Science dogmatist. Have I not seen many a homeopathist prescribing or giving patent medicine, when their *materia medica* had been exhausted(?) for the sake of retaining and curing a case of intermittent fever? And did I not have an elderly allopath, who plunged from *contraria contrariis curantur* into *similia similibus curantur*, call on me in my early days of practice, to prescribe for him suffering from icterus with a face as yellow as ochre? "For

heaven's sake give me something which will change this color; I cannot afford to see my patients looking as I do," he said to me. "Well, I shall physic you." "Never mind that," he replied, "I must get well." And I gave him a lot of comp. leptandrin pills (two parts of leptandrin and one of podophyllin), three grains each, of which to take from two to three every two or four days until cured. In two weeks his countenance looked natural. This may be heroic dosing, but I have always suited the remedy to the case in the city of New York, where I practiced the art for forty years.

After all the system of galenic medication is one of the strong pillars of Eclecticism, just as much as that of either Samuel Thomson or Wooster Beach constitutes a good second, and of Rafinesques' aboriginal system makes a befitting third pedestal in the foundation of American Eclecticism.

ECLECTIC MATERIA MEDICA.

H. Ford Scudder, M.D., Redlands, Cal.

(Read before the California Eclectic Medical Society.)

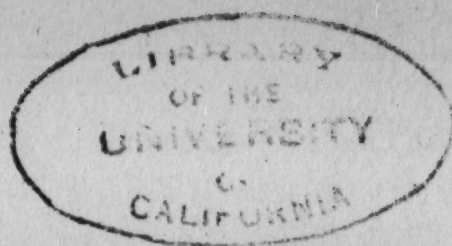
As Eclectics we are very prone to sit down, pat each other on the back and say with specific medication, specific diagnosis and our Eclectic materia medica and therapeutics of today that we have the most rational and scientific system of practice. I quite agree with the above assertion and believe that when it comes right down to the point of the practical application of drugs for the relief of various conditions of disease, that the Eclectic practice of today is far ahead of any other. But that isn't enough; we cannot afford to sit still and make this assertion. In this age of progression, with all the new fads, all the hustle and the competition, etc., no one can afford to rest on his oars. We must either go forward or reverse the same as an automobile in a public street. We must make it go one way or the other or some one will push it aside. Now consider our present, up-to-date Eclectic materia medica and our own individual system of therapy. It is taught consistently and is thoroughly drilled into each student in our various Eclectic colleges so that every Eclectic graduate of today has a weapon at his command which enables him to go out in the world and make a success of his profession. Besides, practice and knowing just what to prescribe is our strong point; symptomatology, not nosology; but consider for a moment our heritage; how it was obtained, and how well or how poorly we are guarding it.

The knowledge of Eclectic materia medica that we have today was not gained in a few years; it has taken years of patient toil, self-sacrifice, disappointments and the most careful investigation on the part of the men who have gone before

and on the part of our present Eclectic writers. Then why not try and add our small mite to that fund of knowledge? I don't think it is selfishness on the part of anyone of our members because he does not write an article for The Journal or for his State Society nor disseminate the knowledge of specific medication that he has gained by actual practice. It is more thoughtlessness, or may be laziness. But each one of us should be more than willing to give the other fellow the benefit of his experiences, especially regarding Eclectic materia medica.

The Eclectic Medical Society of California can well pride itself on the fact that we have at least a half dozen men today, members of our own society, who are among the foremost writers in Eclecticism, and whose articles and papers are eagerly sought by our best Eclectic publications. They are patient workers, careful investigators, and are giving the result of their investigations and their labors in the form of papers to our various journals and societies. But what of the rest of us? What are we doing? Are we doing our duty? Should not each one of us contribute his or her part to our Eclectic literature? I think that we should.

While the main object of this paper is a plea for a more thorough study of our materia medica, believe me, gentlemen, I am not disparaging the success and the good results that our men are obtaining in other branches of our profession. We have today in the Eclectic school some of the foremost writers and students on pharmacy, electro therapy, serum therapy, gynaecology, surgery, etc. Men of national reputation, who are making their mark in their various specialties. But the point I wish to make is the fact that we have many men who are capable and who are gaining knowledge of the practical application of drugs in their daily work, who don't do a thing, who sit back and won't write an article, and who do not take the proper interest in the cause of Eclecticism. So I would suggest the formation of a society for a more thorough study of our Eclectic materia medica. Let us form such a society with a membership embracing every Eclectic on the Pacific coast,—Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada. Let us have a special department devoted to this cause in the California Eclectic Medical Journal and with a capable editor and all of us contributing the best that we have, we will soon not only have a national reputation for our Journal, and have each one of us looking eagerly for The Journal every month, but it will be of inestimable benefit to all of us as well as our fellow Eclectics.

**DRUG FORCE.****David P. Cobb, M.D., Blanket, Texas.**

(Read before the Texas Eclectic Medical Society.)

We live by force. We die by force, perhaps a different force from that which propels life. The vegetable exists and grows by force. The world is a compact of united forces, the very nature of a thing being in existence is prerogative of force. Drugs spend their virtue in the physical economy of this universe by force. With all the investigations that are continually going on in our materia medica we have found nothing new. We may have been able to isolate definite elements. Yet no one will for a moment deny their previous existence in the primary substance. We prate about our single remedies, when nature is made up of compounds. This is true of all drugs. We have learned to appreciate force, whether it be coherent, incoherent, physical, metaphysical or animal. We realize in them a vast difference. They all have power which is the result of force. This same power is eliminative and restorative or else it is destructive and antagonistic to certain well-defined laws for the destruction or preservation of the animal economy. The vital principles are involved and are always subservient to the laws of their Creator and to no other, all are predicated upon the law of cause and effect, all of which are productive of force. Here the cause may be submerged into force and become an effect; an effect may revert itself and become the primary cause. There may be a single or compound force emanating from a given drug. We might possibly recognize a neutral force; if so, it is passive; it could only become injurious as a foreign element; it cannot work actively; for if it did so, it would then cease to remain a neutral force. Everything animate or inanimate that exists, the past, the present and future have been, are and will be propelled by this same dominating force. Man goes down into the several sciences and searches their labyrinthic mysteries for fruitful love, yet we find this same force the most prominent factor. It is the foundation of all existence, the predominating factor that rolls the wheels of time. She takes a man on her beautiful wings and soars away into the realms of enchanting scenery, of the most pompous splendor, lost in the enwrapped environments to all intents he is lost to himself and surroundings. What did it? This same peculiar force, that is productive of molecular exhilaration the living principle was infused to a higher degree than had the opposite force been applied.

Under such circumstances the infused reach far above mechanical and other artificial stimulation. The results are by far the most beneficent. The opposite force lowers vitality.

When it is applied to an individual, this world becomes one of sorrow, weal and woe. The finest painting, or the marble which shows all the magnificent beauties brought forth by the sculptor's hand, portrays to them; only bitterness and darkness. He is sunk into the subterraneous regions of ignominy and ruin; his destiny is sealed, so far as he is concerned—that is, his mental and physical properties. This force is injurious to a rightful physiological equipoise. The metamorphical atmosphere which is the habitat of his living principle becomes vitiated, impregnated with foul surroundings. It requires double the amount of energizing force to bring back the lost equilibrium of vitality.

Each succeeding depressant always require more energetic and stable force to recuperate lost power. There are a number and variety of forces existing and emanating from the same and different sources. They can only be productive of two results, exalted or lost energies. They may or may not be instantaneous, I do not know that it makes much difference as the results are certain. Drugs have this same attribute, although possibly the results that follow their administration are derived through different channels, the intensity of which depends largely upon the dosage. The effects are felt throughout the whole system. It permeates protoplasm, cell, tissue and organ. For fear the incredulous will think I believe force is life, I will say life is force and the result of some organized living principle. Some physicians might declare that heat is life. This is not wholly true, for heat may be developed by friction, which is capable of producing force, but not the living principle, life force, and it must operate as generative and non-generative. If heat, electricity and magnetism were life, all we would have to do on a stiff, to bring forth life, would be to apply one of these agents. All these agencies are the result of vitality. The cadaver cannot generate heat, etc., except by decomposition, which does not occur wholly within itself, but it is acted upon and combined with outside forces. It requires living organized power to generate as well as propagate these forces. Thus we see all agents are productive of many forces, which are capable of only two results; there are exalted or lost energies. The size of dose makes little difference only in intensity. If five grains of strychnine is poison to molecular life, so is one billionth part of one grain. The lessening of quantity never, never changes quality! This is an axiom and cannot be gainsaid. Take podophyllum, grind and triturate into one-thousandth part of one grain, it is still podophyllum plus the menstrum. The force and properties are the same as the original root, the difference being only in intensity. It has all the tendencies and likeness of the primary plant. We know

these are truths and must face them. All drugs have a special or elective affinity for certain structures of the anatomy (all drugs are dead material and foreign to the system). To deny this is to deny the curative effect of any therapeutic agent. If they have not these peculiar proclivities, in pneumonitis, why give the indicated medicaments. I would as soon give salts or olive oil. They having no suitable properties for special appropriation, would be as likely to affect one tissue as another. Illustrative, if we give castor oil we expect copious alvine discharges, because it has an affinity; or its force is spent upon the intestinal canal. If it had not this peculiar characteristic, it would as likely affect the skin or kidneys and produce diaphoretic or diuretic properties. If drugs do not have this attribute, therapeuticians will do us a favor to explain and give a legible and philosophical reason for the faith that is in them, as well as why drugs select (are selected) by certain anatomical structures to spend their force. Nothing should ever be added to our therapeutic armamentarium that is in any way deleterious or lowers the living principle of life. When a physician tells me that he uses deadly poisons, as remedial agents in his daily practice, we are aware of one thing—that he has not studied his materia medica as he should have done, neither has he let the natural laws relative to our physiognomy enter his cranium. You might declare the dynamic force of a poisonous drug beneficial. Sir, let me ask you if we have not progressed sufficiently to relegate all poisonous substances to the past. May I again ask, have we not evolved to a point wherein we can successfully treat diseased conditions without the administration of any medicament? Why not? It is only wrong life, a perversion of the punctuating organs. You may refer me to the indications; or pathological conditions calling for belladonna, in which there is a diminished quantity of blood circulating in the brain. May I again ask, are we so enwrapt in the idea of poisons that it is impossible to relieve this morbid condition without the administration of any drug internally? A hot epsom salt bath for the body and moist heat applied externally to the cranium, will dilate the arterioles, capillaries and blood vessels of the brain and thus get an increased blood pressure and within less time, and no harm will ever result from this agent. Again you might say food when taken into the stomach in an abnormal quantity is a poison. This is absolutely correct. Why not? Anything the stomach fails to digest evolves a poisonous principle from which death may result. We will call your attention to the fact that food proper is non-poison, but it is capable of sustaining life. No drug has this power. We must distinguish there is a vast difference between food and drugs; the poison of the former

was by chemical changes for the want of proper digestion, the latter is poison by nature (excess of carbon over oxygen). Three grains of strychnine is capable of destroying life; it does so as readily as a pint. These deductions ought to be conclusive to any reasonable mind. People are like a herd of sheep. As the force of the current drives them along they sway into line. It is not of their own volition, because they are enwrap in the surrounding environments of which they are creatures. They are encumbered with relative forces, which are brought to bear upon them. One writer has said to free a people you must first free their minds. If a man steps aside from the pales of old and exploited theories he is ostracised. If this same force has compelled him to do his own thinking he is branded as a quack. We should ever go to the fountain head and search in the labyrinthic mysteries for truths, and bring them forth as glowing, radiant mathematical problems of indisputable integrity and worth for the benefit of humanity. I am aware that I have assumed dangerous ground, i. e., so far as the larger part of practitioners are concerned.

I have unloosened the girdle that binds the cerebellum, opened up the vaults ready to receive any deductions made upon a scientific base by any dissenting brother.

INFORMAL REMARKS MADE BY JOHN URI LLOYD.

Before the California Eclectic Medical College.

(Continued.)

Dr. Munk remarked in his kindly introductory reference to myself, that I had accomplished much, in many directions, in the brief period of a lifetime, and that, too, under exceptional resistances. I agree with what Dr. Munk has said as concerns the resistance to what I felt should not have been resisted in the efforts I was making, but I will add that these very resistances continually spurred me on to greater effort to accomplish that in which I was optimistically concerned. And in this direction let me say that Nature is a good teacher, because, seemingly, in every direction where effort is being made, there seems to be antagonistic opposition, with the seeming object of preventing Nature accomplishing what Nature is attempting to do. For example, the frost comes at a period when the fruit is most easily destroyed in the blossom, and perhaps a single night wipes out of existence an entire crop that Nature has for a year been preparing to shower upon the earth. Again, even more conspicuously Nature seems to nourish and cherish a crop until it is ready to be gathered, and then unexpectedly, as sometimes occurs in the great wheat fields of the northwest or in the great fruit belts of both the East and

the West, comes an unheralded freeze that destroys the crop after its actual maturity, but before it has been garnered. But Nature, undiscouraged, begins over again, and within a few years all evidence of the destruction usually disappears. In like manner, winds and rains and snows and sleet and volcanic catastrophies and fires, everlastingly attack not only the productions of man, but of Nature as well. The upbuilding of centuries may in a few brief seconds be destroyed. The ending of it all is concealed from us, but we can very well comprehend as we balance things together, that the one thing for us to do as we pass along, is to make the best of our opportunities and be content in that we can accomplish; to meet discouragements in an optimistic manner; to adapt ourselves to new and ever-changing conditions, and in the end, utilize our own mentality and our own intellect, philosophically accepting that if we so do, we have fulfilled the object of our earthly life. If the speaker deserves credit for any one personal contribution that he has made, that may be considered as of benefit to those about him, it has been in thus refusing to become despondent even in the face of the most overwhelming disasters and seemingly insurmountable obstacles in the way of his continual effort in whatever came to hand.

Concerning obstacles and resistances I will frankly state that these teachers have been my most valuable companions. Antagonists have contributed in my direction more than have those who have aimed to be helpful. To the frosts of life do I credit the results of my efforts, more than to the sunshine thrown in my direction; for every frost has invigorated me to greater activity in the way of overcoming, through my own efforts, and to the entrenching myself in such a way as to avoid the paralleling of a disastrous experience. The washing out of a foundation, wherever it may have been laid, has led me to rebuild by digging deeper and putting in a more solid foundation than before, and again building upward.

I consider among the most valuable lessons I have ever learned, some that came to me in childhood days, that taught me the nature of humanity and which, childish though they were, lingered conspicuously when in later years older children attempted to follow the methods employed by my boyhood companions. I am speaking now to a circle of friends that may be considered in the light of a family circle. I am talking extemporaneously in the way of personalities that would not be mentioned in a formal discourse, and that are not designed for publication. With this as an introduction, let me relate one of these early lessons, trusting that it will be accepted in the same manner in which it is extended.

When I was a little boy, down in Kentucky, a piece of money was seldom possessed by the children of my community. The boy who received a copper cent became to others a subject of envy, for this was a mark of wealth. One day my mother gave me one of the old-fashioned kind, which at that date were about the size of a silver quarter. I took it to school with me, and soon it became noised about that I was the possessor of that piece of wealth. At recess one of the older boys came to me and advised me in the most kindly manner to be very careful how I spent that money, assuring me that a little boy like myself could hardly be expected to make a good investment that would bring a proper return; and that he would sacrifice his time at noon, and in the grocery store would help me make my purchase, teaching me how to buy chewing gum, or "wax," as we called it, to the best advantage. I thankfully accepted his kind offer, and at noon we sought the village store, where chewing wax was sold in small sticks, about the size of a small lead pencil, about five inches long, and wrapped with red and white paper, the price being one cent a stick. Said this older boy: "Johnny, you are not a judge of chewing wax. I will do the selecting." So he took my cent, and taking in his hand from the storekeeper a handful of the sticks of wax, he very carefully examined them, selecting a stick that had both ends wrapped with the paper turning in the same direction. Calling to my attention the fact that this was one of the tests of good chewing wax, he paid the storekeeper with my cent, and then, as we reached the door of the store he unwrapped the paper, broke off a bit about an eighth of an inch in length and handed it to me, saying: "Johnny, you put that in your mouth and chew it, and it will swell until your mouth is full of the wax. I, being a bigger boy than you, will keep the larger piece, because my mouth is bigger than yours, and will hold more of it as it swells." I chewed, and chewed, and chewed, until finally the trick that had been played upon me flashed through my mind, and I understood that I had been humbugged, for naturally the wax did not increase in size. Now listen, my young friends. I have never forgotten that lesson. It was one of the most valuable that ever came to me. Many times since then have I met men with the disposition of this big boy, who were quite ready to help me buy my stick of wax, and who would have been fully as ready to let me chew the little end of it until it "swelled in my mouth," they keeping the larger end of the investment, and whenever a problem of this kind came, I have thought of that boy in the Kentucky school, and have said to myself, "I will buy my own stick of wax, and will say how this money shall be spent." I wonder if in Los Angeles today there are not some men helping others to buy a stick of wax?

Comes to mind another lesson of those days that to me was equally as valuable. Our village home was then on the banks of the Ohio, far below Cincinnati, fronting the river. Occasionally a piece of slag, like pumice, floated down the river from the furnaces above. I had never happened to own a specimen of this, but one day one of the big boys of the town had a piece in his pocket and selected me for his victim. Said he: "Johnny, did you ever see anything like this? This is what sponges are made of. You take this and bury it in the earth, and it will turn to a sponge and grow bigger and bigger, and whenever you need a piece of sponge, all you have to do is to go and cut off what you want and cover up the rest and it will keep on growing, just like horseradish, and you will have all the sponges you want to wash your slate with. Now of course I can't give you this without pay, but I will trade it to you for your shinny stick. You can easily make yourself another one, and then you will have both a shinny stick and a sponge." Of course I fell into the trap and gave him my extra fine shinny stick for the "sponge seed," which I buried according to directions by the side of the house and went to school. I couldn't wait for it to grow, but dug it up again and again to see if it had begun to change to a sponge, until finally it occurred to me that again I had been beaten. I wonder if in Los Angeles there are not some men trading "sponge seed" for shinny sticks?

How many times in life have I applied that lesson I cannot say, but whenever an investor has wished to impress me with the idea that the thing he represented was a fact when to me it seemed questionable, I would say to myself: "You may bury that slag yourself and watch it turn to sponge, for I want none of your investment. You may then wash your own slate with the sponge that you have created; I will hold on to my shinny stick."

In referring to these two incidents, let me call to your attention that such lessons as these come to all, and that they are useful to us only in proportion as they are properly interpreted. The wrong comes when we let them slip by us without utilizing them, and thus fail to take advantage of an opportunity presented. How many men there are who, with an inheritance they have gained, let some other "big boy" spend it for them! How many Americans there are, many no doubt in this very city, who have put some find that they have made, into the hands of some "promoter," with the expectation that their money will increase many fold, like the slag that was to turn to a sponge!

In closing, let me urge those of you who are before me, to remember that as regards numbers of students, this school in

which you are studying is one of the minor teaching institutions, and that in this sense the school is not as conspicuous as though it numbered thousands of students in attendance; but in my opinion, this very fact is of the greatest advantage to those of you who are here. In my opinion, the smaller the class, providing the teacher is well fortified, the better the opportunity for each member of the class. Students and teachers come closer together. Every boy or girl is known personally to the teacher, who comprehends just what each needs in the way of helpful instruction. He comprehends fully the idiosyncracies of each pupil, and can guide each into useful channels of activity that would otherwise be neglected. He can take an interest in the backward, as well as the forward student, can help where otherwise he would find it impossible to guide. To be a minority school as regards size, is not, in my opinion, a mark of inferiority, nor is it the money side of the problem that appeals to me. The work accomplished is the object, and the end.

Anybody can become a member of a majority school, or a majority party, whether it be in religion, in medicine, or in politics. The majority catches the larger numbers; the minority appeals to him of ideals. It is the minority that, wedging into new fields, moves men onward and upward, in politics and other directions. Out of the minority come the idealists, who finally take advantage of opportunities that are in turn seized upon by the majority, to benefit the people at large. Sometimes the majority is so dogmatic and set in its narrowness, as to make it necessary to turn them out of place. Then the minority becomes the majority, and as with the seasons, the process is repeated, over and over again. Seemingly, here we have Nature again exemplified in resistances against things that should not be resisted, or in catastrophes that follow the passing of the seasons. Listen! Men of weak calibre and of small brains can afford to be in the majority. They seldom seek the minority. The majority too often follow a leader, stepping duck-like, one after the other, perhaps following in the very footsteps of the leader. A very narrow path is that, and sometimes leads to destruction. With these thoughts in mind, may I not ask that you have no fear of the word "minority," but that you will pass on through life doing good when comes the opportunity, and scattering blessings wherever you have a chance, be they small or great, practicing a system of medication that is kindly and idealistic as concerns the people benefited thereby, serving each and all of the community in which you live, and receiving in return a good living and an honored position in society, for this is rightfully due to him who contributes to the welfare of society at large.

AMMONIUM CHLORIDE.

Oran Newton, M.D., Long Beach, Cal.

(Read before the California Eclectic Medical Society.)

The following indications are suggestive in the administration of this chloride:

Deficient capillary circulation, evidenced by dusky redness of the skin, the redness disappearing on pressure and returning slowly. Cough of a rasping, irritating, tight and harsh character when the secretions are scanty and tough; also cough depending upon hepatic, gastric or intestinal irritation. The dose is from one to thirty grs. It is not necessary that large doses be given as excellent results are obtained in doses of less than one grain.

Ammonium Chloride is a stimulating expectorant acting upon all mucous membranes, and is a common ingredient of many extemporized cough syrups. It is especially useful in catarrh of the bronchi with relaxed and debilitated mucous membranes.

In the treatment of Pneumonia excellent results are obtained from the administration of ammonium chloride from the first. If the patient be a man of rugged constitution give ammonium chloride in from two to five grain doses every two hours. It is best prescribed in an aromatic syrup as it has a pungent salty taste. This chloride has high repute in the treatment of catarrh of the stomach, with anorexia, bad taste in the mouth, flatulence, coated tongue, etc., in short the symptoms of so-called "billiousness;" also, in chronic congestion of the liver, Jaundice from catarrh of the bile ducts, and will be found of great service in colitis or ilio colitis and will relieve the irritation and pain present. This agent should be used in the treatment of chronic prostatitis. It may be given for a short time in large doses, and then continued in small doses, the large doses to be given again if occasion demands. Many physicians claim that it is a positive cure in the treatment of Prostatic enlargement. It soothes vesical irritation, relieves tenesmus, overcomes the mucopurulent discharge, and adds tone and vitality to the parts. It is said to be remarkably efficient in straightening up a victim of acute alcoholism; administered to one on verge of delirium tremens, in dose of thirty grains in half pint of water, swallowed at one draught, it is said to restore the patient's faculties so quickly as to astonish those who have never seen it so employed. The drug is a stimulant to the capillary circulation and will be found of benefit in exanthematous fevers, favoring the eruptive process, especially if there has been a recession. Locally in solution, it has been well employed as a lotion for inflammatory swellings, as sprains, inflamed joints, parts threatened with gangrene, and painful glandular enlargements. It is also employed to remove ecchymosis of the surface of the body, especially of the eye lids. A hot solution will quickly overcome the discoloration of a violent contusion.

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THE LEGISLATOR'S RECESS.

At this writing the people of California are "trying out" the innovation of having a recess of thirty days during each session of the legislature, the object being to give the people a chance to express their views on the various bills introduced, before final action is taken. If you have a reason for liking this bill or disliking that one, it is your privilege to button-hole your legislator and tell him all about it. The plan was introduced to strengthen the popular form of government, and its practical application has proven to be a success.

From personal experience we conclude that the legislators rather like it, for they not only give courteous attention, but the questions they ask show that they are seeking for the facts. In the matter of medical legislation we are vitally interested, and it is our duty as well as privilege, to show them wherein the present law creates and maintains a "medical trust." This law was made in the office of the A.M.A. in Chicago, and is now and always has been administered from that Sanctum Sanctorum. It is so drawn that our governor is a mere puppet to be moved by wires pulled from a foreign state, a condition of affairs which is intolerable to an intelligent and freedom loving people.

We must have a new law in which all of the requirements to practice medicine in this state are set forth in detail. Make

it clear to the legislators that we do not advocate a lowering of the standard, but that this legislature is just as capable of fixing that standard as is the A.M.A.

Furthermore, such a law can and will be enforced by our governor in a fair and impartial manner.

Also we must have reciprocity. There are many states which have as high a standard as our own, and these reciprocate with each other. But California stands aloof. Why this dog-in-the-manger policy? Are we afraid of the competition of our peers? Certainly not. At least Eclectics are not. The record will show that we have appeared before every legislature for years asking for reciprocity.

These demands are perfectly fair and we get them from the present legislature because they intend to do the fair thing. They are provided for in the Assembly Bill No. 501, introduced by Mr. Gelder of Alameda. It will come up for consideration in a short time, and it is your personal duty to Eclectism to point out to your respective legislators the reason why this bill should become a law.

THE HOSPITAL YEAR.

The Board of Regents of the State of New York has recommended the legislature to pass a law requiring candidates as a preliminary to the State Board Examination to show evidence that they have passed one year in a hospital, either in the capacity of internes or as clinical clerks. It will be of interest to examine this proposition from two standpoints, that of the candidates and that of the hospitals.

So far as the prospective physicians are concerned, it is quite obvious that it is of advantage to the public that they receive their licenses to practice medicine only after fullest proof of competency. It would be delightful if no one was allowed to practice medicine nor surgery nor any of the specialties except tried and proven experts. We should all of us like to be the peers of men like Osler, Janeway, Murphy or Keen. It is quite evident, however, as these men attained their eminence after years of actual practice that their successors will have to gain their knowledge and pre-eminence in the same way. The hospital year whether passed as interne or clinical clerk can be no more than a beginning. It is also evident that if the recommendation of the Board of Regents becomes a law, of necessity many candidates for a license will prefer to present a year as clinical clerk, rather than a year as interne, since to present the year as interne would require the majority to submit to what would be in effect a year and a half of waiting and not a year. Hospitals do not make a clean deck the first of June and put in an entirely new force

of internes. Moreover the term of service of hospitals varies greatly, from one year up to two years and even longer. Take those which, few in number, have a one year term. If the number of internes on the house staff numbered four which is rather a small average, it is evident that but one of the four could enter the hospital and so be eligible, one year later to the State Board Examinations. Two men might enter together if the service was divided strictly into medicine and surgery, but this is not usual except in large hospitals which require a much larger staff than four men and also a longer term of service, nor would such a division be advantageous. It is fair to suppose that a hospital with a house staff of four men would take a new man every three months. Thus A alone entering in June on receiving his degree would have but a single year to wait before becoming eligible for his State examinations. B, entering the hospital in September, course in medicine. C, entering in December, eighteen months and D, the man securing fourth place and entering in March would have to wait twenty-one months before eligibility.

The average time which would elapse before eligibility could be secured would be sixteen and one-half months, but as eligibility and an examination period would not necessarily coincide it is evident that the time at which a candidate would secure his license might extend under this minimum hospital system to almost two years. The hospital year therefore does not mean the extension of the medical course to five years, but to almost six, unless the State Board is prepared to hold examinations every three months. Even then, it is evident that the average course will be almost five years and a half. But many hospitals will be unwilling to adopt a one year system. Experience has shown that there are most serious objections to so short a term. If the service is a mixed service and this will usually be the case in a hospital requiring no more than four internes, the successive positions will usually run somewhat as follows: junior physician, junior surgeon, house physician, house surgeon. The hospital therefore has the services of a house physician for but three months and that of the house surgeon for the same length of time. Whatever may be said of such a system as applied to medicine, it is distinctly bad for a surgical service. This hardly requires argument, it is so obviously true. We may therefore expect many hospitals to decline to impair their efficiency by changing from the longer term to which they have been accustomed, to the one year term.

The effect of this would be evidently to still further lengthen the medical course so that for the majority of men

it would easily extend well into the seventh year on account of the necessity of waiting for vacancies. It is quite true that a considerable number of men possessed of sufficient capital to make the long wait possible already take hospital positions which entail a long service, but it is one thing for a man to do voluntarily what his capital permits him to do and quite a different thing for the state to compel him to do something for which his means may be inadequate.

Already the age of earning capacity of the young physician in this country is much greater than it is in Europe. This is partly accounted for by the peculiarity of our educational system. Can we afford to still further lengthen the period of probation so that a man will reach the age of twenty-six or twenty-seven years before he can even think of earning a living? The proposed situation is one that at least admits of discussion. Its merits are by no means entirely obvious.

What is to be done with the man who earnestly tries to get a hospital position and fails to do so? Does the State intend to make it obligatory upon all hospitals, public or private to open their wards to men who may be distinctly objectionable as internes? What is to be done with the interne who is dropped from a hospital for some breach of discipline? Suppose Cupid plays a not unusual prank and the young interne goes out with a nurse and both are caught by the argus eyed supervisor or superintendent, "Off with their heads," says the book of rules. The nurse thereupon loses the few months which she has served in the hospital without compensation, but the interne loses the opportunity to take his state examinations in this state and must go elsewhere to practice medicine. Yet he has violated no law of the state nor has he necessarily committed any sin against the moral law. On the one hand the state says to the young man you must show evidence that you have passed a year in the hospital, on the other, the hospital superintendent says "you have violated rule X of the regulations and must go. We are not concerned with your state examination." It is all very well to say candidates for examinations must obey the hospital regulations or take the consequences. To deprive a man of a few months of hospital experience is one thing. It is quite a different matter to deprive him of the power to earn his living, for a mere youthful discretion. Yet an obligatory hospital year might do exactly that very thing.

From the standpoint of the hospital, it is evident that to enable candidates to comply with the new requirements its doors must be thrown much wider than at present. What about competitive examinations? How can the state permit competitive examinations, which are destined to pick out

exceptional men when it requires all students of medicine to take a hospital year? What equity would there be in permitting the large hospitals to continue to hold competitive examinations, in which to be successful most competitors enter special costly hospital quizzes yet compel smaller hospitals to accept all comers with a degree. If the hospital year is to be made obligatory it is incumbent on the state to provide hospitals for all candidates, but how can this be done until the hospital becomes a state institution under state control as in Germany and France?

What will the proposed system advantage the hospital? It seems reasonably certain that if this recommendation becomes a law the term of service in the hospitals will have to be uniform and all be reduced to one year. The disadvantages of such a system have already been pointed out. It is bad both for the individual and the institution.

There is one way in which the disadvantages of such a system might be obviated and that is by having a paid resident staff of indefinite tenure, under whose instructions the hospital work might be continued with the assistance of the medical student. This, of course, would add a considerable item to the hospital budget. Are hospital trustees fond of adding to the expense account? Yet all these things require consideration when we talk of an obligatory hospital year.

The proposition that the medical student shall become a clinical clerk and not an interne is interesting. With the exception of the histories, which are for the most part already sufficiently bad without being made worse, the clinical records of the hospital are made by the nurses, whose duty it is to make the vital records and observe and put in writing the changing symptoms of the patients under their care. Is this work to be taken from the nurses and transferred to the hands of the clinical clerks? What then is to become of this part of the education of the nurse? The medical school of the nurse is the hospital. She gets all her training within its walls. Under the new system is she to become a maker of beds, a giver of baths and a subordinate to a lot of medical students? We wonder what the authorities of the State Nurses Association will say to that proposition, who already wish to make of the nurse a near-physician? From the hospital standpoint, the introduction of a lot of clinical clerks would result in a good deal of confusion and make the nursing problem, already not without difficulty, worse than at present. So far as history taking is concerned every hospital physician knows how bad is the present system. The junior on the staff is usually the historian. He is just out of medical school. Under the competitive system at present in vogue, he is a

picked man and yet he does badly enough. Why should it be otherwise? It often takes some skill as a cross examiner to elicit a correct history. The only man really competent to get a correct and satisfactory history is the visiting physician. It would be possible and highly advantageous so far as the quality of the histories is concerned, if all histories were taken by the visiting physician and dictated to the clinical clerk. This again would add to the burden on the visiting staff, which in this country serves without compensation—whose members indeed are expected to support the hospital by the sums paid into the treasury by their private patients.

The hospital year is an admirable project theoretically, but there are evidently several view points from which it may be observed which throw some sharp shadows into the perspective.

Without doubt, however, all difficulties and objections will be readily solved by the enthusiastic theorists. The public will doubtless welcome our increased efficiency. Our incomes will grow *pari passu* with the increased cost of our investment. Law makers will continue to turn a deaf ear to our good friends, the quacks as they demand state recognition and joyfully enter into competition with us. Everything will be lovely for everybody but the doctor. Medicine is already the most difficult of all professions to enter, the most costly in the training and years of study required and offers the poorest financial return on the investment of any the learned professions. The profession wishes to increase its load. The State hastens to assist. "Issachar is an ass bending between two burdens."—Editor of New York State Medical Journal.

SOCIETY CALENDAR.

National Eclectic Medical Association meets in Dallas, Texas, June, 1913, Dr. F. L. Wilmeth, Lincoln, Nebraska, President; W. P. Best, M.D., Indianapolis, Ind., Secretary.

Eclectic Medical Society of the State of California meets in San Francisco, May, 1913. A. Florence Temple, M. D., San Francisco, Cal., President; H. F. Scudder, M. D., Redlands, Cal., Secretary.

Southern California Eclectic Medical Association meets in Los Angeles, May, 1913. Oran Newton, M.D., Long Beach, President; H. C. Smith, M.D., Consolidated Realty Bldg., Los Angeles, Secretary.

Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society meets at 8 p. m. on the first Tuesday of each month. H. C. Smith, M. D., Los Angeles, Cal., President; P. M. Welbourn, M. D., 818 Security Bldg., Los Angeles, Secretary.

Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society.

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society was held on Feb. 4, 1913 at the College.

There was the usual good attendance of members and visitors.

The evening was spent in a general discussion of various therapeutic remedies, especially those applicable to rheumatic trouble.

The next meeting will be on March 4th, at which time Dr. H. Ford Scudder will read a paper.

Adjournment. H. C. Smith, Pres., P. M. Welbourn, Sec.

COLLEGE NOTES.**Herbert T. Cox.**

Several volumes of good and useful books have been lately added to the college library by the kind donations of H. K. Stratford, M.D., of Chicago.

Mr. C. L. Stammers was a sudden caller at the college one day recently, having come down to get Professor Baird to go and see his father, who was dangerously ill with pneumonia and complications. We learn that his father is much improved at this time.

Professor Newton showed up at his lecture recently with a missing incisor. When asked what was the matter he laughed. Wonder if it was a stray Mexican bullet that did it, or if not, we still more wonder what the other fellow looked like.

The senior class has its regular meetings at stated intervals and they are waxing warm and interesting as the close of the term approaches. Keep your eyes on these columns to see what is going to happen in May. From present indications, if the faculty does not flunk too great a percentage, the largest class will be graduated since the college came to Los Angeles. They have a few things working up their sleeves which they will try and juggle out to their friends when the proper time comes.

The student-body of the C. E. M. C. held its February meeting Monday evening, February 11th. A good attendance was present, probably on account of the fact that a good feed had been promised. The usual business was transacted, and the meeting turned over to the entertainment committee with Mr. Prince presiding. A talk was given by Mr. Cox on "The Student-Body, Past, Present and Future." Dr. Seeburger was to have read a paper, but was absent. President Calloway filled in the time by asking each member present for their idea or definition of Eclecticism and many interesting points were brought out in the discussion. The beautiful repast was then

served by Mrs. M. E. Kerr and Miss R. F. Wirick. Everyone enjoyed this and voted that the refreshment committee be continued.

The seniors had their final examination on the eye by Professor Duncan. Professor Newton also gave the freshmen their final in hygiene.

Ask Dean Munk how his baseball team is getting along; also please send all dates for games to him, as he manages the team.

Mrs. H. R. Evans has been on the sick list, but is now much improved.

NEWS ITEMS.

Dr. A. Vos, Cincinnati, is a new subscriber for 1913.

The regular monthly meeting of the Los Angeles County Society will be held on March 4th, at the College.

Dr. C. N. Mosher, Kinsley, Kansas, is visiting in Southern California and is considering a change of location.

Dr. A. E. Byron, Oakland, is spending some time in Los Angeles and may become a member of the Southern Eclectics.

Dr. H. Ford Scudder announces the removal of his offices from Redlands to 337½ South Hill St., Los Angeles.

Dr. C. J. Lawrent, Elwood, Nebraska, sent his subscription some weeks ago, but it was lost in transit. However, the matter has now been adjusted.

Dr. A. W. Davidson, Poplar Bluff, Mo., who has been a subscriber since the Journal began publication, has sent his renewal for another year.

Dr. Willima Soenneken, of New York, visited Los Angeles three times before he could come to stay and has bought himself a home at No. 620 Benton Way.

Dr. M. S. Kelliher, Lompoc, has removed to 433-434 Ochsner Bldg., Sacramento, and will devote his time to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat.

Dr. E. Mather, Detroit, and Miss Anna M. Briscoe were married on January 25, 1913. At home after March 1st., 46 Warren Ave., East Detroit. The Journal extends congratulations and best wishes.

The following have sent in their renewals to the Journal for the coming year: Dr. G. W. Bryant, Truckee, Cal., Dr. W. C. Fox, Kennett, Cal., and Dr. C. S. Clark, Arroyo Grande, Cal.

Dr. J. Liftchild, Ukiah, paid a short visit in Los Angeles last month. It was the Doctor's first visit in many years. We hope he will not stay away so long again.

Dr. Henry K. Stratford, of Chicago, made a liberal donation of medical books to the College library recently that are received with thanks. They were stored for a time at the Fellowship Farm near this city and were brought in by Dr. H. C. Smith in his automobile.

FOR SALE—Southern California. Office furniture and practice. Growing town. Insurance and railroad work. Collections good. Going to Europe for Post Graduate. Price right. Address, Care of California Eclectic Medical Journal.

There is a good location in Northern California. The Eclectic wishes to change because of health and will sell his place, including static machine, furniture, etc., for one thousand dollars. He has a small sanitarium accomodating six patients in connection with his office.

READING NOTICES.

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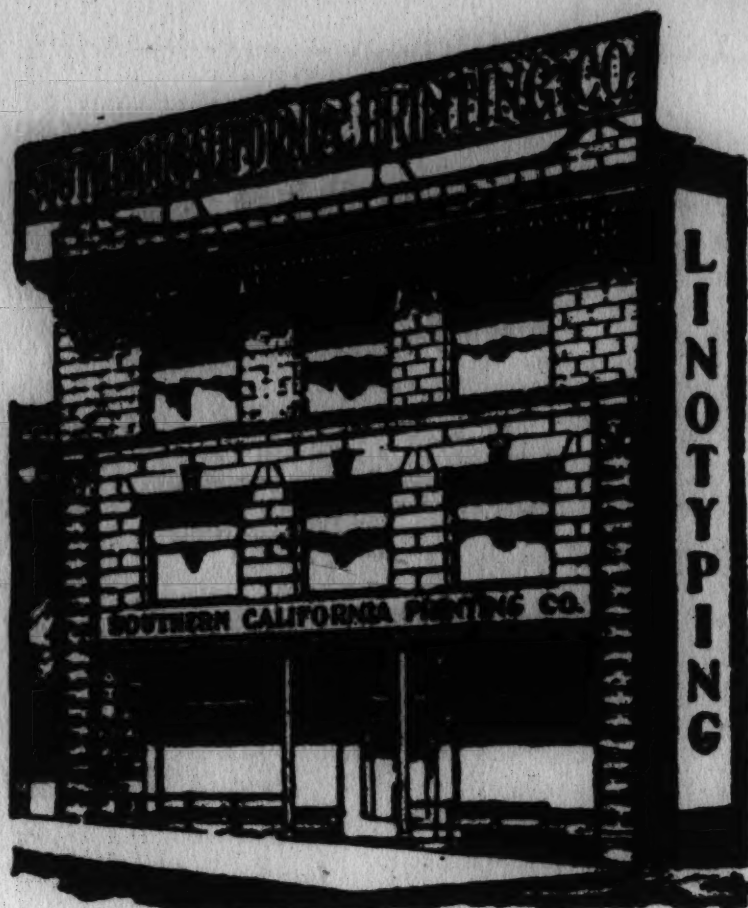
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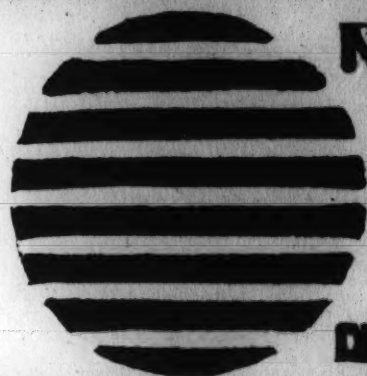
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